

# Recognitions at April 2007 State Board Meeting

- **Middle School Principal of the Year**

State Superintendent of Education Jim Rex and State Board of Education member Cindy Clark (left) congratulate Janie Langley, named Middle School Principal of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. Langley has been principal of Macedonia Middle School in Berkeley County for 20 years. She was also named Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and has been designated a National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.



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- **Languages coordinator recognized for service to French education**

State Superintendent Dr. Jim Rex and State Board member Diane Sumpter congratulate Ruta Couet, who's been named a Knight in the Order of Palmes Académiques for her service to French language education. Couet is the State Department of Education's coordinator for Modern and Classical Languages and has taught French at every grade level. She was instrumental in the state's recent agreement with France for a four-year teacher exchange program. Couet was honored by the French government at an awards ceremony and reception in March in Atlanta.



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- **Kershaw County school honored in national "watch" program**

State Superintendent Dr. Jim Rex and State Board member Diane Sumpter congratulate Lugoff-Elgin Middle School principal Dan Matthews after his school was selected as a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. This program began in 1999 to identify middle schools that meet or exceed a set of strict criteria for excellence. The Kershaw County school is the first and only one in South Carolina to be so honored.



- **Emerging Leader award goes to Cowpens Elementary principal**

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Libby Swad congratulate Eric Levitt for earning the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's Emerging Leader award, honoring 14 young educators worldwide who excel as leaders, learners, and doers. Levitt has been principal of Spartanburg School District Three's Cowpens Elementary for two years and previously served at the Middle School of Pacolet. For the next two years he will take part in professional development courses and a mentorship program.



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- **Prudential Spirit award salutes Spring Valley High student's volunteerism efforts**

State Superintendent Dr. Jim Rex and State Board member Diane Sumpter congratulate Spring Valley High School student Graham van Schaik for winning a Prudential Spirit of Community award for outstanding volunteerism. He was cited for organizing a summer science camp for 160 at-risk elementary school youngsters, with assistance from the Boys and Girls Club and \$2,000 in solicited donations. Van Schaik is also a Regional and International Science Fair winner and a star athlete in rowing.

